



Minutes City Council's Transportation & Affordable Housing Committee December 19, 2006

Minutes of the City Council's Transportation & Affordable Housing Committee held on Tuesday, December 19, 2006, 1:00 p.m., in the 3rd Floor Conference Room, Tempe City Hall, 31 E. 5th Street, Tempe, Arizona.

Committee Members Present:

Councilmember Shana Ellis, Chair (arrived at 1:10 p.m.)
Vice Mayor Hut Hutson

City Staff Present:

Liz Chavez, Housing Svcs Administrator
Carlos de Leon, Deputy Public Works Mgr
Gregg Kent, Principal Civil Engineer
Glenn Kephart, Public Works Mgr
Jayson Matthews, TCC
Jyme Sue McLaren, LRT Project Mgr
Amanda Nelson, Comm Outreach Mktg Supvr
Chris Salomone, Comm Dev Mgr
Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Svcs Dir
Steve Wise, TCC

Guests Present:

Beth Fiorenza, Tempe Community Action
Susan Holt Maas, Tempe School District #3
Carla Kahn, Metro Light Rail
Courtney LeVinus, Capitol Consulting, LLC
Katie Nelson, *AZ Republic*

Vice Mayor Hutson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

There were no public appearances.

Agenda Item 2 – ASU Car Sharing Program 0109-02

Glenn Kephart summarized a potential ASU car sharing program.

- ASU is working with Flexcar to enter into an agreement for a car sharing program for staff and incoming freshmen.
- Cars would be placed in strategic locations around the City, convenient to transit locations, where transit riders who need a car at some point during the day would reserve a car and be charged a fee ranging from \$5-\$9 an hour, including gas, insurance, etc.
- Statistics nationwide show the program has a 10:1 ratio of removing cars from the street.
- There is also interest from Lee Chestnut who is developing property at the Center Parkway LRT Station on Washington to implement a car sharing program when that

development opens a year from now. Both ASU and Chestnut agree that it would be beneficial to have only one company to work with.

- It would be effective for the City to partner in some way.
- Important to have these cars placed in the right places, and that would often be in City's right-of-way.

There was discussion regarding number of cars/parking spaces, opportunity for income source, and opportunity for a transit option.

DIRECTION: Staff was directed to continue to work with ASU to explore the feasibility of a partnership and provide an update at the next Committee meeting.

Agenda Item 3 – ASU LRT Station Design and Names 1101-01

Amanda Nelson summarized that ASU had expressed interest in incorporating identity in the signage and design of the three stations serving ASU. The station signage for those three stations would be:

- ASU (logo) Phoenix campus (Van Buren/Central Avenue station)
- ASU (logo) Sun Devil Stadium (Veterans Way/College Avenue station)
- ASU (logo) Tempe campus (University Drive/Rural Road station)

Concerning station design, ASU identity will be incorporated through logo placement on platforms and shade canopies. There will be pavement markers of brushed aluminum in the platform paver blocks, 10 per platform/20 at each station. Fabric signage with the ASU logo will be installed on about half of the canopies at each station (10 at each station). ASU will cover the additional costs.

DIRECTION: Staff was directed to take this modification to IRS in February or March, or earlier, if necessary, to work with Valley Metro schedule.

Agenda Item 4 – Task Force on Disability Issues Recommendations 0105-01-10

Carlos de Leon summarized that two years ago the Tempe Community Council formed a task force on disability issues. Several recommendations have been assembled and he provided a status update of the recommendations.

- **Curb cuts** - ongoing to improve bus stops and improve accessibility
- **Buses** - expansion of the Neighborhood Circulator program, for which Council has given direction to move forward.
- **Light Rail Development** – ongoing
- **Taxicab Vouchers** – RPTA has established an "Alternative Transportation Program" to provide alternatives to Dial-A-Ride system. Three programs that could be offered to Tempe seniors and persons with disability include: a Mileage Reimbursement Program (most cost effective), a User-Side Subsidy Cab Coupon Program, and a User-Side Subsidy Cab Voucher Program.
- **Dial-A-Ride** - Staff and RPTA are working to improve service as well as alternate options to provide more convenience while freeing up capacity: Vehicle Management System (VMS) was completed on vehicles in 2005. Staff has participated in development of a performance based contract between RPTA and its dial-a-ride

provider. The City's contract with Maricopa County Special Transportation Services provides special services on a case-by-case basis. The East Valley Dial-a-Ride Users Group was established by RPTA this year. A proposal to make fixed route service free to ADA certified citizens is being explored at the regional level.

- **Night Rescue Program** – Staff will investigate the possibility of establishing a program to be implemented by the current transit contractor. Staff will provide an update to the Committee in the spring of 2007.
- **Travel Training Program** – Easter Seals operates a program to educate persons with disabilities on how to use the bus. Operators are also trained on sensitivity to disabilities.
- **Disabled Parking Enforcement** – Staff will continue to explore this issue with the Police Department and the City Attorney's Office and will return to the Committee with an update.

Vice Mayor Hutson added that the Finance, Economy & Veterans Affairs Committee will be looking at the disabled parking enforcement fee structure.

Agenda Item 5 – Affordable Housing Strategy 0403-01

Liz Chavez summarized that the Affordable Housing Strategy has been revised and a timeline for its implementation has been drafted.

Chris Salomone added that he met with the Governor's Chief of Staff and the State Housing Director to discuss legislative initiatives. Affordable housing will be included as part of the Governor's inauguration. The League of Arizona Cities and Towns has also put this as one of their top priorities. This is a statewide issue and it is gaining momentum. Affordable housing has to have funding sources and cities can't delegate enough money to underwrite affordable housing on a statewide basis. He also summarized that the density bonus program is a way to create workforce housing at transit nodes. Joining with the other cities, Phoenix in particular, to look at that as a potential regional coalition could be a good demonstration of how it is a regional issue.

Councilmember Ellis asked about the impact fee study.

Ms. Chavez responded that staff has selected a consultant to begin the impact fee study process. David Rosen and Associates have been selected and staff will be meeting with them after the first of the year to discuss the work plan needed for that. A twelve-week study is proposed.

Ms. Chavez further updated current activities in affordable housing.

- Staff has signed a contract with Save the Family to provide transitional affordable housing units. This is a big program.
- Staff is participating with ComCare regarding a program to provide affordable housing units to families under the Housing First program. This will be transitional housing to assist along the way to permanent housing.

DIRECTION: Staff should return to Committee in January with further updates.

Agenda Item 6 – Future Agenda Items

Update on HOPE program

Mortgage Revenue Bonds and Mortgage Certificate Program Updates

Approval of Affordable Housing Strategy for referral to full Council

Marketing Affordable Housing Programs (Councilmember Ellis)

Homeless Services Center ideas (Councilmember Ellis)

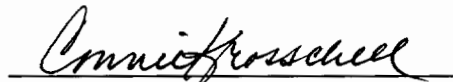
School Zone Signage

Car Sharing Program Update

Next Meeting: January 23, 2007, 3:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Prepared by: Connie Krosschell

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Connie Krosschell", written over a horizontal line.

Connie Krosschell
Acting City Clerk